



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND
1333 ISAAC HULL AVENUE
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20376-2101

IN REPLY REFER TO

5720

Ser SEA 00A5/DON-NAVY-2018-006486F

May 24, 2018

Mr. Perry Singh
4334 Still Meadow Road
Fairfax, VA 22032

SUBJECT: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT CASE DON-NAVY 2018-006486

Dear Mr. Singh:

This is a final response to your March 27, 2018, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request in which you seek information related to vacancy announcement ST-10114241-18MJM, the number of candidates interviewed, ranking process and selection criteria, score and ranking for myself, and the score for the number 1 ranked candidate.

A thorough search of this Headquarters files was conducted, specifically those files located within the Corporate Operations Directorate (SEA 10) and the Program Executive Office, Unmanned and Small Combatants (PEO USC). Knowledgeable personnel with those offices identified a list of interview questions and a spreadsheet of candidates as responsive to your request.

I considered your request under request under the FOIA (5 U.S.C. §552), and Secretary of the Navy Instruction 5720.42F. After careful review of the two documents, I determined that the interview questions may be released to you in its entirety, though some portions of the spreadsheet of candidates must be redacted under FOIA exemption (b)(6).

Exemption (b)(6) requires withholding of information in files where disclosure "would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." In applying exemption (b)(6), a balancing test must be done, weighing the privacy interests of the individuals named in a document against the public interest in disclosure of the information requested. The public interest in disclosure is one that will "shed light on an agency's performance of its statutory duties." Dep't of Justice v. Reporters Committee, 489 U.S. 749, 773 (1989). The information redacted would reveal, or tend to reveal, the identities of the applicants for the position and thus creating an unwarranted invasion of privacy without any countervailing public interest in their disclosure.

The releasable portions of the requested documents are attached as an enclosure.

I am the official responsible for the decision regarding your request. You are advised of your right to appeal this decision. Should you decide to appeal this determination, you must do so in writing to:

Department of the Navy
Office of the General Counsel
1000 Navy Pentagon, Room 4E365
Washington, DC 20350-1000

Your appeal must be postmarked within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. A copy of your initial request and this letter must accompany the appeal. The appeal should be marked "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL" both on the envelope and the face of the letter. In order to expedite the appellate process and to ensure full consideration of your appeal, it should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this decision to be in error.

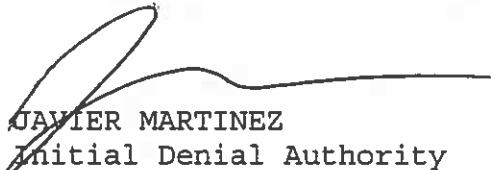
For this determination, you also have the right to seek dispute resolution services from either the Department of the Navy FOIA Public Liaison, Mr. Chris Julka, at: Christopher.a.julka@navy.mil, via phone: (703) 697-0031; or by contacting the Office of Government Information Services at: (<https://ogis.archives.gov/>), (202) 741-5770, ogis@nara.gov.

Questions regarding the action taken by this office to process your request may be directed to the Navy FOIA Service Center at (202) 685-0412 or via email at donfoia-pa@navy.mil.

Fees for processing your request have been waived in this instance. However, fees are assessed on a case-by-case basis and you may be charged for future requests.

If you have any questions concerning the foregoing, please contact Ms. Ginger Dolan, at 202-781-3359.

Sincerely,



JAVIER MARTINEZ
Initial Denial Authority

Enclosure